

The Florida House of Representatives

For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Contact:

Lyndsey Cruley, (850) 487-8148

Statement by House Health & Human Services Committee Chairman Schenck on the

Governor's Actions Regarding the Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Tallahassee, Fla. – Representative Robert Schenck (R-Spring Hill) today released the following statement regarding the Governor calling into question the actions of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD).

"I commend Governor Scott on his efforts to tackle the deficits within the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

"Repeated efforts by the legislature to give the agency tools to keep spending within appropriations have been thwarted by litigation, delays in implementation, and other problems inherent in government-run systems.

"The House Medicaid reform proposal suggests a new solution – a public-private partnership that will enlist the financial and service expertise of managed care organizations to find better ways to serve persons with developmental disabilities, but avoid deficit spending. This plan will shift the focus of government to selecting the right partners, measuring quality, and monitoring performance."